



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

SEPT. 16, 2010 VOL. 71 NO. 36



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grand opening

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No second chance to make good first impression

UCI preparation team

Only 37 days until the Air Education and Training Command Compliance Inspection. The inspection team will be here before we know it.

Is your workplace ready for the inspection? Having an inspection-ready workplace is one of the best ways to leave a good first impression on the AETC Inspector General inspectors. It's also a great psychological way of preparing everyone in the unit for the inspection. Knowing that you have your processes finely tuned, that you are compliant with all regulatory requirements and that your building is ready for inspection will leave little doubt in the inspectors' eyes that you are excellent in all that you do.

As you take a look around your office, try to see things as a new arrival would. Scrutinize both the interior and exterior of your facility. Ensure work centers and offices don't have a cluttered look with scattered paperwork and empty boxes. If you find anything that isn't up to par, have a plan to have it fixed before the inspection begins on Oct. 24.



Everyone in the work center should ask questions — Are there any self help projects that we can complete? Is there trash around the facility? Do the walls need a fresh coat of paint? Are there broken items in need of repair? If the broken item requires a civil engineer work order, have your facility manager submit the work order immediately.

Come up with a plan to get everyone in the work center involved — after all, we are a team.

Organize a clean-up party to pick up trash outside the facility. Clean the interior — dust the furniture, vacuum the carpet, sweep and mop the floors and straighten up the supplies and equipment.

Preparation is the key. As the inspectors walk around your facility, they'll make note of many things. Do you have the correct names, hours of operation and room assignments on the directories on the wall? Are the bulletin boards up-to-date with all mandatory information such as the equal opportunity, inspector general and operational security posters. Are the most current policy letters posted with the signature of the current wing commander? Are the wing leadership photos the correct ones? Taking the time to do now means one less area of concern as the inspection draws near.

Remember that your workplace is just that — yours. Take pride in the appearance of your workplace. Having a neat and orderly work center will leave a lasting impression. You own the workplace so make it shine and sparkle, not only for the AETC/IG inspectors, but also for yourself.

Remain vigilant — crime, terrorism never sleep

Air Force Office of Special Investigations Detachment 407

It doesn't matter what country you are stationed in or what city you call home. Wherever you are, crime and terrorism never sleep. Law enforcement officials are well trained, equipped and vigilant; however, they simply can't be everywhere at once.

To combat crime and terrorism, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations created and manages the Eagle Eyes program. Eagle Eyes program places all members of the military family community on an anti-terrorism and crime task force by providing the information each member needs to recognize and report suspicious behavior.

There are seven key suspicious behaviors that are exhibited by all perpetrators of crime and terrorism.

Surveillance — someone recording or monitoring activities, including the use



of still or video cameras, note taking, drawing diagrams, writing on maps or using binoculars or any other vision-enhancing devices.

Elicitation — anyone or any organization attempting to gain information by mail, fax, telephone or in person about military operations or people.

Tests of security — any

attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures.

Acquiring supplies — purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture them), or any other controlled items.

Suspicious persons out of place — people who don't seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment, or anywhere else. This also includes suspicious border crossings, stowaways aboard ship or people jumping ship in port.

Dry runs — putting people into position and moving them about without actually com-

mitting a terrorist or criminal act such as a kidnapping or bombing. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

Deploying assets — people and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is the last opportunity to alert authorities before the terrorism occurs.

You and your family are encouraged to stay alert to your surroundings, whether on base, off base and at home or elsewhere. If you observe any suspicious activities, call the 81st SFS law enforcement desk, 377-3040, any time of the day or night. The law enforcement desk will notify the Office of Special Investigations immediately.

Remember as a member of the military family community to watch for suspicious behavior, report what you've seen, and protect by observation and action.

ON THE COVER

From left, Staff Sgts. Nicholas Wilson, Lamar Gardner and Marcus Jones and Tech. Sgts. James Hoover, Jed Moss and Joleen Giddens fold the flag during Friday's formal retreat in front of 81st Training Wing headquarters to commemorate the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and to honor all people who have given their lives in defense of America's freedom. Sergeants Wilson, Jones and Moss are 338th Training Squadron military training leaders. Sergeants Gardner, Hoover and Giddens are MTLs in the 338th TRS. Another photo, Page 14.

Photos by Kemberly Groue



KEESLER NEWS

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DRAGON ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

Keesler News photojournalist

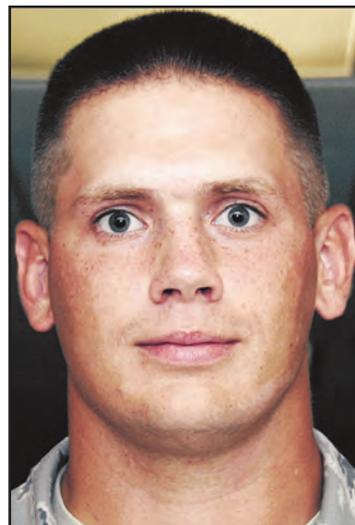
What is your favorite quote?



"Stay alert, stay alive."

Senior Airman LaDarius

Jones, 403rd Logistics Readiness Squadron



"Mess with the best, die like the rest."

Airman Basic Scott Esler, 332nd Training Squadron student



"All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." — The Apostle Paul
Dewi Clark, 81st Communications Squadron

Exceptions to Keesler's 25 mph speed limit:
15 mph in housing areas, flight line and unpaved surfaces;
10 mph in close proximity to marching formations and when waved through base gates;
5 mph in parking lots; and
35 mph in some sections of perimeter roads.

Are your records up to date?

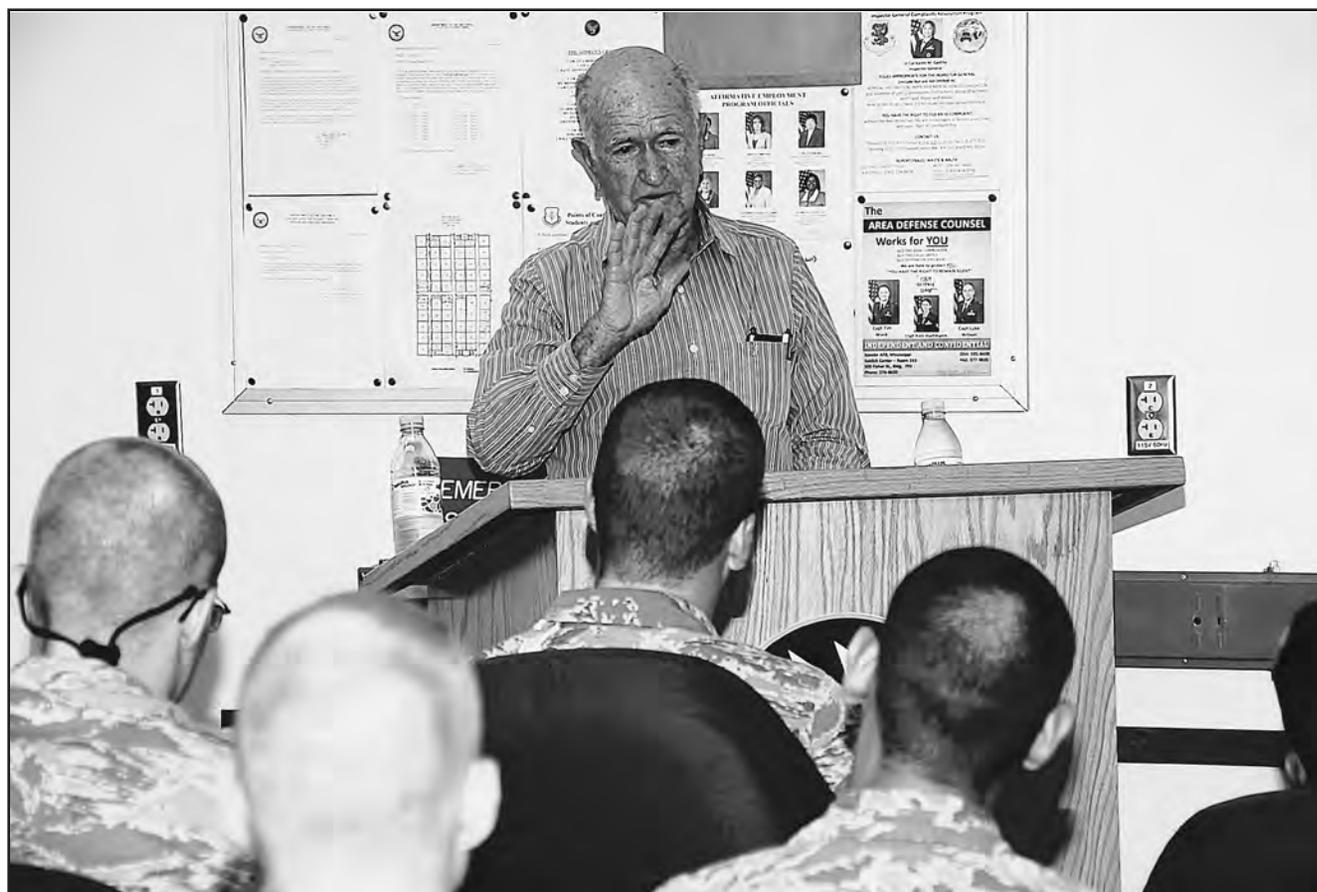
Air Force Personnel Center Web site: <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil>

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

World War II veteran shares D-Day experiences

World War II veteran L.C. Terrell speaks to precision measurement equipment laboratory students from the 332nd Training Squadron Sept. 9 in Wolfe Hall. Mr. Terrell spoke about his experiences in the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, June 6, 1944. Mr. Terrell served for 14 years in the Army and active Air Force Reserve and spent 23 years in his law enforcement career.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Base shuttle schedules are found at
<http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp>

TRAINING, EDUCATION NOTES

William Carey program

William Carey University is now offering career and technical education degree programs at Keesler for people interested in instructional design.

The undergraduate program accepts 24 hours of technical credits. Courses support GS 1750 requirements and are offered in the evenings and online.

Dr. Karen Juneau is available to talk to people interested in exploring this option for the winter trimester, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays in September in Room 219, Sablich Center.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 376-8480.

Drill down, parade

Drill down — 8 a.m. Oct. 29.

Parade — 6 p.m. today.

For more information on drill downs, call Tech. Sgt. Julie Hammond, 377-2103. For information on parades, call Tech. Sgt. Steven Clifton, 377-2789.

Free bowling

The Air Force Sergeants Association provides free glow bowling with a disk jockey, 3-5 p.m. Friday at Gaudé Lanes.

There's no charge for shoes. Food and drinks are available at regular prices.

Commissioning briefings

Starting Oct. 12, commissioning briefings are 10 a.m. second Tuesday of the month in Room 224, Sablich Center.

CCAF online

Visit the Air Force Virtual Education Center, <https://www.my.af.mil/afvecprod>, to create MyAFVEC accounts to access online customer service tools.

People can request and track Community College of the Air Force transcripts, view degree progress reports and see if a course counts toward a CCAF degree.

Officials increase deployments to six months for active component

By Jon Hanson

Air Force Personnel Center
Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz announced a change to the air and space expeditionary force rotational baseline from 120 to 179 days for the active component.

He said the revised construct will increase predictability and stability for affected Airmen and their families, while providing better support to combatant commanders by increasing continuity at deployed locations.

“In the two years the Tempo Band construct has been in existence, the number of Airmen deploying for 120 days has steadily decreased,” General Schwartz said. “Since Airmen in Tempo Band ‘A’ expected to deploy for 120 days but were frequently tasked for 179-day deployments, I saw no reason to maintain a 120-day baseline.”

Previously, the Air Force used five tempo bands, rang-

ing from “A” through “E.” With the change, the Air Force will move Tempo Band “A” unit type codes and associated personnel to Tempo Band “B.” Incorporating a 1-to-4 deploy-to-dwell time, the change results in six months of deployed time for Airmen and 24 months at home.

Revising the baseline also provides a single battle rhythm for all Airmen, regardless of functional area. The difference between the remaining tempo bands is the deploy-to-dwell time, ranging from 1-to-4 to 1-to-1.

Because of the complexity of changing the baseline, officials said it will take until October 2012 before all deployments are six months.

Expeditionary combat support Airmen will begin the transition in January 2011, with a five-month deployment. Remaining deployment vulnerability periods will vary between five and six months.

Combat Air Force units transition to the new baseline beginning this month. They previously were in an

“enabler” category at a 1-to-3 deploy-to-dwell time. Those units will move to Tempo Band “C,” remaining at a 1-to-3 deploy-to-dwell time, but will see an increase from 12 to 18 months at home station between deployments.

“Ultimately, this is good for the Air Force mission, our Airmen and their families,” said Col. James Horton, the director of AEF and personnel operations at the Air Force Personnel Center. “While the deployment time is longer, it also means the downtime is longer.

“This change is meant to reflect a more realistic and consistent deployment outlook,” he said. “By better managing our wartime operations tempo means we can provide our Airmen and their families the greatest level of stability and predictability.”

For more information, visit the AFPC personnel services Web site, <http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil> and search keyword “deployments,” or call the Total Force Service Center, 1-800-525-0102.

Reserve chief proposes closer look at active and reserve force mix

Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — The commander of the Air Force Reserve Command spoke about military structure for the 21st Century Sept. Monday at the 2010 Air Force Association Air and Space Conference and Technology Exposition 2010.

“We’re going to have to readjust, reapply and rebalance the manpower which currently exists,” said Lt. Gen. Charles Stenner Jr. He added that proven reserve capability and cost effectiveness should drive discussions on rebalancing the mix of active and reserve forces.

He said AFRC’s challenge is to determine how much of the force to use as requirements change and how to continually use the strategic reserve without unduly straining the force.

He also said one way to better leverage Air Force manpower would be to ease the ability for Airmen to move between active and reserve components providing for a more fluid continuum of service.

“Some of the efficiencies the Department of Defense is looking for may need to come in manpower,” General Stenner said. “Additional efficiencies are likely going to come in installation consolidations and headquarters reorganizations.”

“Every Air Force mission is the result of total force teamwork,” General Stenner said. “I see force rebalancing and a fully operational major command as viable ways to strengthen our commitment to the Air Force’s air, space and cyberspace capabilities.”

IN THE NEWS

Death notification

With great regret, Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, announces the death of Tech. Sgt. Timothy Hogan, previously assigned to Keesler Fire Emergency Services.

A memorial service for Sergeant Hogan is 8:30 a.m. Sept. 24 at Triangle Chapel.

Any person or persons having claims for or against Sergeant Hogan’s estate, call 2nd Lt. Aftan Boudreaux, summary court officer, 376-8704.

Housing privatization meetings set

Town hall meetings to discuss privatization of Keesler’s military family housing are 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Bay Breeze Event Center ballroom.

Quarterly wing run

The quarterly 81st Training Wing run is 7 a.m. Sept. 30 on the flight line.

Off-limits list

These establishments have been declared “off-limits” to all armed forces personnel by the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board::

Biloxi — Ya-ya’s, 2623 Pass Road.

Pascagoula — Bunksmall Apartments, 708 S. Pascagoula Street.

Ocean Springs — Pugs, 6213 Washington Avenue.

D’Iberville — Guitars and Cadillacs, 4031 Popp’s Ferry Road

Gulfport — Herbal Alternatives, 1909 East Pass Road and 11530 U.S. Highway 49.

Service members are ordered not to enter or patronize these off-limits establishments or their locations. This restriction doesn’t apply to armed forces police on duty or others on official business. Violations of this order are punishable under Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Early Keesler News deadline

The deadline for submissions for the Oct. 14 issue of the Keesler News is noon Oct. 7 because of the Columbus Day holiday, Oct. 11.

Wing calendar event-planning

The 81st Training Wing events calendar at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/events/index.asp> is designed to help organizers avoid conflicts with other events.

Once an official date is set, event planners should send details to the public affairs organizational box, 81trw.pa@keesler.af.mil. Most items are posted within one business day.

Items that must be included are the name of event, date, time, location and a point of contact.

Events should be coordinated and approved through respective chains of command and be mission-relevant to a wide audience. All inputs are subject to review and editing by the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs office.

Roots of America's youngest military service run deep

Air Force celebrates 63rd birthday Saturday

Many people know that the United States Air Force was established as a separate service on Sept. 18, 1947, but fewer may be aware that its lineage can be traced to before World War I, even to the very beginning of flight. In fact, the Air Force has a heritage that goes back almost as far as the history of modern flight itself.

On Aug. 1, 1907, a scant four years after the Wright Brothers' first flight at Kitty Hawk, the Army Signal Corps established a small aeronautical division to take "charge of all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines and all other kindred subjects," even though at the time there were few aeronautical "subjects" upon which to build.

From the close of the Civil War until 1907, the Signal Corps consisted of just 10 balloons and a small dirigible. By 1909, however, the government purchased its first airplane — a Wright Brothers biplane — at a cost of \$25,000, plus a \$5,000 bonus for speed in excess of 40 mph.

Throughout the next few years, change came fast, dramatically altering the dynamics of the Signal Corps and helping form the nucleus of a separate service.

On May 20, 1918, President Woodrow Wilson issued an executive order transferring aviation from the Signal Corps to two agencies under the secretary of war: the Bureau of Aircraft Production, headed by John Ryan, and the Division of Military Aeronautics, directed by Maj Gen William Kenly. The War Department officially recognized these two Army agencies on May 24 of the same year; they comprised the Air Service of the Army. The Army Reorganization Act of 1920 made the Air Service a combatant arm of the Army, while the Air Corps Act of 1926 changed the name of the Air Service to the Air Corps. By then, the Air Corps had 919 officers and 8,725 enlisted personnel, and its "modern aeronautical equipment" consisted of 60 pursuit planes and 169 observation planes.

Leading into the Second World War, the Air Corps underwent a number of organizational changes. The General Headquarters Air Force, officially organized Oct. 1, 1933, became operational and assumed command and control over all Air Corps tactical units two years later on March 1, 1935. As the nation geared up to enter the war, the General Headquarters Air Force was removed from the jurisdiction of the chief of the Air Corps and given separate status under the commander of the Army Field Forces on Nov. 19, 1940. Seven months later, air combat forces returned to the command of air leaders as Gen George Marshall, Army Chief of Staff, established the Army Air Forces on June 20, 1941, to control both the Air Corps and the Air Force Combat Command, formerly General Headquarters Air Force.

Eight days before General Marshall's action, what would become Keesler Air Force Base was being plotted out on an 832-acre site in Biloxi,



Keesler celebrates
its 70th birthday
in 2011.
For a specific history
of Keesler,
log on to
<http://www.keesler.af.mil/library/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=4881>

Miss., officially designated Air Corps Station No. 8, Aviation Mechanics School. Later that June, the War Department renamed the new base in honor of 2nd Lt. Samuel Keesler, a native of Greenwood, Miss., who died behind German lines after being shot down in air combat in the last months of World War I. As the United States geared up to enter the Second World War, the Army Air Forces desperately needed trained pilots and mechanics, and Keesler soon became a thriving technical training center.

A few months after the United States entered World War II, a War Department reorganization March 9, 1942, created three autonomous Army commands: Army Ground Forces, Services of Supply (later, in 1943, Army Service Forces) and Army Air Forces. This reorganization dissolved the office of the chief of the Air Corps and the Air Force Combat Command, and merged all elements of the air arm into the Army Air Forces. The administrative reorganization did not affect the status of the Air Corps as a combatant arm of the Army.

After World War II, the United States entered into a long period of Cold War with the Soviet Union, its former ally, and needed a stronger organizational structure for its military services. To strengthen the nation's defenses by streamlining the armed services, the Truman administration proposed a National Security Act in 1947 which became law on July 26 of that year.

The act created a Department of the Air Force, headed by a secretary of the Air Force, and established the Air Force as a separate military branch. On Sept. 18, 1947, Stuart Symington became the first Secretary of the Air Force, and on Sept. 26, Gen. Carl Spaatz became the new service's first Chief of Staff.

The new Air Force grew exponentially, and by fiscal year 1948 had approximately 374,000 active-duty members and 101,000 civilian personnel.

Those numbers peaked at an all-time high in fiscal years 1953 and 1956 when the active-duty force climbed to roughly 980,000 and the civilian force crested at just over 400,000. Today, the Air Force's numbered strength closely resembles that of 1948 and stands at 348,058 active duty and 146,440 civilians.

Although only 63 years old and considered the newest branch of the armed forces, the Air Force has established a rich and honorable heritage. From the early days of balloons and dirigibles to today's F-22 Raptor, it has evolved through time to become the most powerful, technologically advanced and feared fighting force in the world.

As the Air Force has evolved, so too has Keesler, from training aircraft mechanics and recruits in 1941 to becoming the premier cyber, electronics and computer training center for the Air Force today.

In the 21st Century, the 81st Training Wing, Keesler's host unit, is one of the largest technical training wings in the Air Force and in Air Education and Training Command. The 81st TRW has trained thousands of Airmen, as well as military members from the Navy, Army, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and allied nations. It has also helped train civilian and military members in specialized skills ranging from comptroller, radio and radar systems maintenance, communications electronics, computer systems, air traffic control, weather, personnel, and command and control systems.

From the time it was founded, the base that trains the Air Force to fight and win is at the forefront of helping the youngest service remain the strongest in the world.

Jim Gildea, former 81st Training Wing historian now assigned to the 720th Special Tactics Group History Office, Hurlburt Field, Fla.; Susan Dawson, current 81st TRW historian; the Air Force Historical Research Agency and Air Force Personnel Center contributed to this report.

PERSONNEL NOTES

Classes for job hunters

Job hunters can improve their chances for success with several upcoming classes at the airman and family readiness center.

Classes are held in the center's conference room in Sablich Center. There's a limit of 10 people per class.

Federal format resume writing — 2 p.m. Sept. 30, Oct. 14, Nov. 17 and Dec. 9; and 3 p.m. Oct. 28. Registration is required.

Civilian format resume writing — 2 p.m. Oct. 7 or 21, Nov. 4 and Dec. 2 or 16; and 3 p.m. Sept. 23.

Career choices — noon to 2:30 p.m. Sept. 23 and Oct. 29.

Interview skills and salary negotiation — 11 a.m. Sept. 28, Oct. 26, Nov. 23 and Dec. 28.

For more information, call 376-8728 or e-mail lana.smith.1@us.af.mil.

Retroactive stop loss claims

Air Force News Service

Airmen, veterans and beneficiaries who were involuntarily extended under stop loss between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009, are eligible for retroactive stop loss special pay.

If your enlistment was involuntarily extended due to stop loss, and you have yet to file a claim for retroactive stop loss special pay, Oct. 21 is the last day to file.

For links to the claim forms and instructions on how to file, log on to www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss

Moving in October?

81st Logistics Readiness Squadron

The Joint Personal Property Office in San Antonio relocates to Port San Antonio Oct. 7 and is minimally manned the entire month.

Those relocating in October should visit the personal property processing office, Room 114, Sablich Center, no later than 30 days prior to their desired pickup date.

Technical training students in the Triangle area must contact the traffic management office, Room 211, Levitow Training Support Facility.

Clearing outstanding travel orders

81st Comptroller Squadron.

If outstanding travel orders aren't processed promptly, the 81st Training Wing could lose valuable funding at end of the fiscal year. The overall responsibility lies with the member. All official travelers are responsible for filing their travel vouchers within five days of returning from temporary duty. If your orders are revoked or canceled, members should notify the finance office as soon as they receive notification.

If your travel orders were created in the Defense Travel System, the member should file the voucher immediately upon return from temporary duty. Orders that are canceled must be canceled by the member and approving official in DTS. If an airline ticket is involved, work with the central ticketing office to receive credit for the ticket.

For travel-related inquiries, call 376-8225.

Military personnel contacts

Military personnel section phone numbers:

Customer support — 376-8738.

Career development — 376-8739.

Force management — 376-8740.

Student personnel center — 377-4111.

Testing — 376-4111.

NCOs needed to retrain

By Jon Hanson

AFPC Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Friday is the deadline for Airmen to voluntarily retrain as part of the 2011 NCO Retraining Program before the program's involuntary Phase II begins.

Air Force officials identified 1,061 opportunities for Airmen to retrain out of their current career field under NCORP. Airmen can volunteer during Phase I for career fields meeting Air Force specialty code and grade requirements listed in the implementation message. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. However, those selected under Phase II will be placed into AFSCs based on the needs of the Air Force.

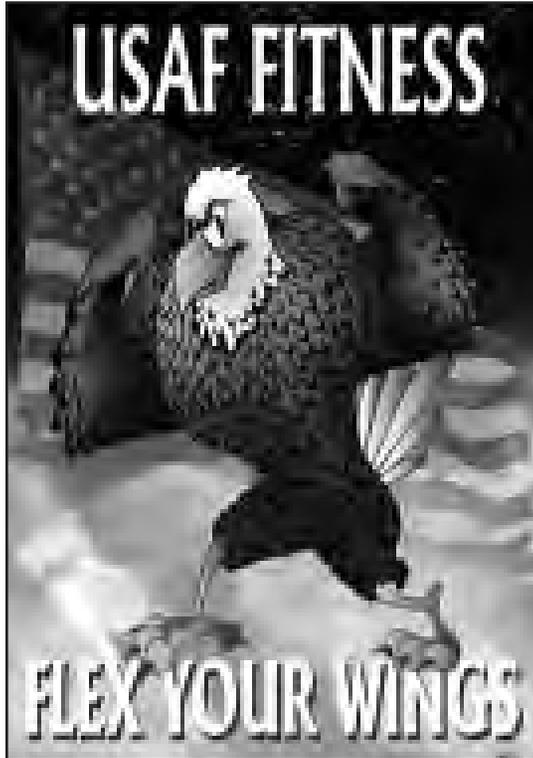
As of Aug. 31, the Air Force has reached 46 percent of the Phase I goal.

Officials caution NCOs identified as vulnerable not wait until the final days to apply for a specific AFSC, which may no longer have any quotas. In addition, if a member does not qualify for one of remaining available AFSCs, they will be considered for separation.

The master vulnerability list is on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight at <https://w20.afpc.randolph.af.mil/afpcsecurenet20/>.

Frequently asked questions concerning NCORP are available at <http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil> under the "Enlisted" button and click on the "Retraining" tab. Airmen can apply for retraining on the vMPF as well as find the remaining retraining-in opportunities.

For more information, contact your local military personnel section, or call the Total Force Service Center, 1-800-525-0102 or DSN 665-5000.



**Volunteer —
get connected.**

24 senior airmen complete Airman Leadership School

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Airman Leadership School held a graduation ceremony for Class 10-6 Sept. 9 at the Bay Breeze Event Center.

Graduates are:

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Senior Airman Carlina Moreland (academic award).

81st Dental Squadron — Senior Airmen Ray Gesmundo and William Richardson.

81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron — Senior Airmen Katijah Gachett, Corey Handley and Nina Valdez.

81st Force Support Squadron — Senior Airman Ian Johnson.

81st Logistics Readiness Squadron — Senior Airman Natalie Barnes.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Niguel Pulley.

81st Medical Support Squadron —

Senior Airman Candice Cimbball Sharp-ton and Sung Kwon.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Senior Airmen George Clark, Philip Hanson and Christopher Naranjo (class first sergeant) ; Staff Sgt. Aaron Gaddis (distinguished graduate and class leader).

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Adam Hall and Antoinette Marrow.

81st Training Support Squadron — Senior Airman Stephen Johnson.

81st Training Wing staff agencies — Senior Airmen Ronald Hodges, Cody Spitler (commandant's award) and Eric Summers.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Senior Airman James Pearce.

332nd Training Squadron — Senior Airman Gregory Skelton.

334th TRS — Senior Airman Jeramie Piefer (John Levitow Award).

14 graduate from Mathies NCO Academy

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Fourteen Keesler technical sergeants were members of Class 10-6 that graduated Sept. 2 from the Mathies NCO Academy.

2nd Air Force — Prometheus Amoguis.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Tommy Mattox.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Dawn Paster.

81st Training Support Squadron — Jason Goodman.

332nd Training Squadron — Nathan Cyr.

334th TRS — Michelle Davis and Justin Tischler.

335th TRS — Kerry Holmes and Noah Vaughan.

336th TRS — James Desgrange.

338th TRS — Michael Farmer.

366th TRS Detachment 6 — Wesley Boyd and Christopher Deakle.

403rd Maintenance Squadron — Vincent Hawkins.



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Facebook!

81TRW

Keesler AFB, MS

Bay Breeze Event Center opens Friday

81st Force Support Squadron

The long-awaited grand opening of the new \$26.5 million Bay Breeze Event Center begins with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, 9:30 a.m. Friday.

The annual Keesler vs. Biloxi Bay Chamber of Commerce golf tournament starts at 11 a.m. A celebration begins at 4:30 p.m., with tours of the center, free entertainment and food, children's activities, prizes and giveaways.

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Bay Breeze Golf Course, destroyed the consolidated officers/enlisted club and inflicted significant damage to the base's community center.

After numerous brainstorming and planning sessions to restore and rebuild these activities, an idea to consolidate these three major activities into a state-of-the-art event center was born.

Located on the golf course across from the Bay Ridge housing area, the Bay Breeze Event Center will provide a myriad of services to Keesler personnel and the base's neighbors and surrounding communities.

The golf course features a par 71, 18-hole link with an expanded clubhouse and pro shop with brand name equipment and apparel. The tourna-

ment room, with snack bar and large flat-screen TVs, provides a comfortable environment for customers to relax and eat before and after play. Men's and women's locker rooms feature personal showers and dressing areas. The driving range and putting green are only two club-lengths from the clubhouse. Individual or group lessons are available at reasonable rates, and club/pull cart rental program is offered.

The golf course phone numbers are 377-3832 or 435-5297.

Also on the first floor, the community center offers many great programs, activities and services. Complete with two multipurpose rooms, two music rooms and a piano room, the community center provides space for adult classes in music and taekwondo. It's fully equipped with a game/billiards room and a cyberspace video game room with high-tech Internet, video and computer games. A 200-person capacity conference room is available for hosting any type of event or function.

The information, tickets and tours office in the community center area where customers can gather maps, brochures and purchase dis-



Photos by Kemberly Groue

The bar on the second floor provides a place to gather and enjoy food and drink while taking in the views of Biloxi's back bay.

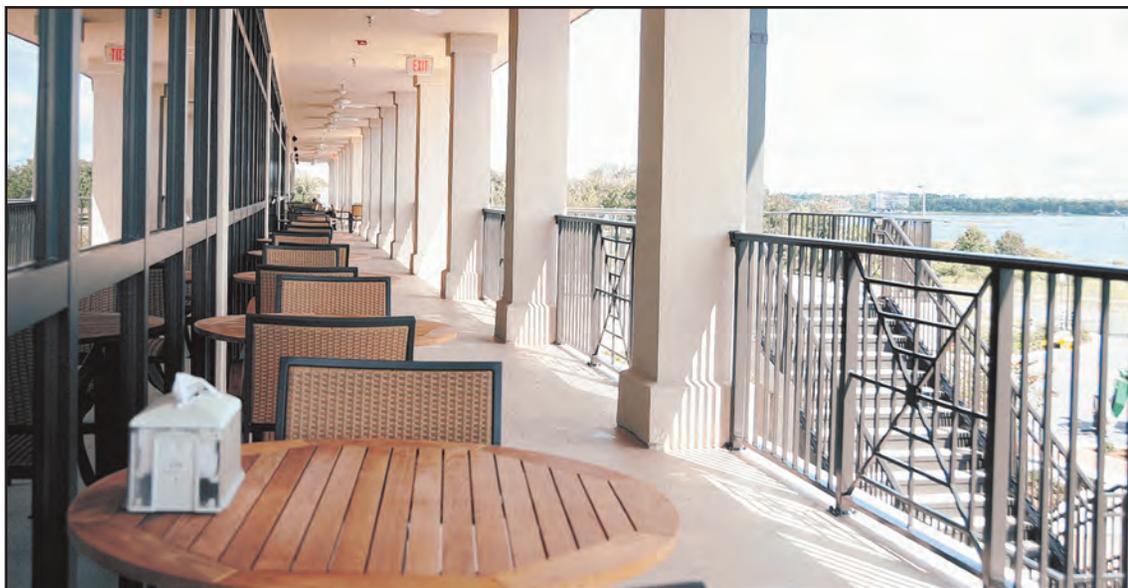
counted tickets to family resorts and attractions such as Disney World, Sea World, Busch Gardens and other area attractions in the community center's information, tickets and tours office. ITT also organizes group trips to activities such as New Orleans Saints football games and Mardi Gras parades.

On the second floor, there's a casual dining area and ballroom with a breathtaking view of the Biloxi Back Bay. The 200-seat casual dining area

serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Air Force Club members receive discounted prices when they dine in the restaurant or participate in a club-sponsored event. The ballroom can comfortably accommodate up to 500 attendees with 200 more in an overflow room. The ballroom and overflow room is equipped with state-of-the-art communication, audio equipment and training devices, making it an ideal venue for wedding receptions, conferences, graduation ceremonies, dances or special events such as birthday, farewell or

anniversary parties. The club can provide catering services for any type of function. For more information, call 377-2219.

The collocated club is on the third floor. While sipping a cocktail or dining on the terrace, guests can enjoy the view of Keesler's flight line, golf course, marina and Biloxi Back Bay. The enlisted and officer lounges offer private parties, karaoke contests, Monday Night Football specials with the NFL ticket, bingo and other events. For more information on the collocated club, call 377-0545.



The balcony just outside the second floor dining area offers expansive views of the bay while dining. The balcony's ceiling fans help the facility live up to the Bay Breeze name by providing a cool, breezy place to eat even in the dead of summer.



Head waitress Elizabeth Medina, left, sets tables with club manager Shaunelle King in the 200-seat dining room on the second floor, where breakfast, lunch and dinner are served.



Chapel thanks leadership for support

From left, Chaplain (Capt.) Ruben Dovos, Cmdr. Angie Walker and Maj. Matthew Stratton get acquainted during the chapel's appreciation luncheon for commanders, chiefs and first sergeants, Sept. 9 in the Triangle Chapel Annex. Commander Walker leads Keesler's Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit and Major Stratton commands the 335th Training Squadron.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



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Lest we forget

Col. Rodney Berk, 81st Mission Support Group commander, renders a salute during Friday's formal retreat in front of 81st Training Wing headquarters. The ceremony commemorated the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and honored all people who have given their lives in defense of America's freedom.

Photo by Kemberly Groue



Cross-country donors emphasize blood needs

By Steve Hoffmann

Keesler News staff

Jim and Linda Parker have donated nearly 60 gallons of blood between the two of them throughout their lifetime. And they are nowhere near finished.

The Parkers began their journey by donating at as many Red Cross donation centers as they could. They hit all 34 in 27 states. "When we finished that, we thought, 'Why not do all 50 states?'" said Mr. Parker. So the Parkers contacted all the independent blood banks to complete all 50 states.

When they got to Hawaii, their journey took a turn. Hawaii doesn't have a civilian blood donation center. The only one available was at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii, part of the Armed Services Blood Program's network of donation centers. Having a son on active duty in Iraq, and knowing that any blood donated with ASBP would go directly to the military, their efforts became personal.

The Parkers decided they would continue their journey by donating platelets at all 20 donation centers with ASBP. Their first stop was at the Pentagon on June 15, 2009. Their journey and brought them to Keesler, their 14th ASBP donor center, Sept. 7.

Though a process known as apheresis, platelets are extracted from the blood by drawing blood out of the body

and spinning it at a certain rate in a machine which separates the blood into its component parts. In this case, the platelets are collected and the red blood cells and plasma are returned to the body.

"If the needle is not in correctly, I'll know it and I'll scream," said Mrs. Parker about the process. "But if it's in correctly, the anticoagulant feels like a mint traveling up my arm and into my head. It's cool."

It's a process that takes considerably longer than conventional whole blood donation but is helpful in ways unlike a standard pint of blood. Platelets can be used to treat cancer patients who've lost them during chemotherapy treatments and injured service members and burn patients who often require multiple surgeries.

"I give because it's an honor to give," said a tearful Mrs. Parker. "It's humbling. I'm too old to serve but this is one way I can serve my country. And I like seeing men and women in uniform. It reminds me of my son. I haven't seen him in more than two years."

"We used to be hooked up to that," said Mrs. Parker pointing to an older machine. "We had to lie here for two hours with both arms strapped to the chair. You couldn't do anything. If you had to scratch your face you had to ask someone else to do it." Now the machine is much smaller and the blood is drawn and returned through the same line.



Photos by Kemberly Groue
Apheresis technician Stephanie Stringfield, 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron, monitors the intravenous insertion on Mr. Parker's arm as he begins his platelet donation at the Keesler Blood Donor Center Sept. 7. His wife looks on after completing her session.

"I like to watch the Food Network," she said. "It's a great time to relax and get to know someone new, as well."

Along with giving for the satisfaction of giving, the Parkers are giving to get the word out.

"We'd always hear stories about the shortages of blood nationwide and we wanted to see for ourselves," said Mr. Parker. "Sure enough, everywhere we went they'd show us the storage coolers where they kept their blood and they'd be empty. There is no supply. We'd talk to cancer patients in some parts of the country who had to settle for half treatments of platelets because there wasn't enough for a whole treatment."

Getting the word out in the small town of McPherson, Kan., where the Parkers live presented a challenge. But one day the Parkers got an idea.

"Living where we do, we'd always have someone passing through town who was heading across America on bike or on foot or on a horse and they'd always get media coverage," she explained. "So we thought, 'Why don't we travel across the country and give blood.'"

Their idea is working. When the Parkers gave blood at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., 140 Soldiers were marched to the blood center to meet them and give blood. The blood donation center at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, was full of young Airmen waiting to give when Jim and Linda arrived.

"It's gratifying to see that," said Mr. Parker. "Our main purpose is to help save lives. A close second is to get the word out that there is a shortage. Everywhere we go, we see older people from my generation giving blood. We need more young people to give."

"I started giving because of young people," recalled Mr. Parker, a former high school principal. One day he was approached by a group of seniors.

"Back then, my philosophy was if God wanted me to give, he'd put a spigot in my arm," he admitted. "I didn't want anyone sticking a needle in my arm. I thought it was barbaric."

A bloodmobile was visiting the high school that day and the seniors challenged him that if they could get over half the student body to donate, he would donate."

"I remember asking myself, 'Do I stick to my philosophy and not give or do I bite the bullet and help encourage young people to give?' I bit the bullet."

At 268 lifetime donations, Mr. Parker continues to bite the bullet. Mrs. Parker is a close second with nearly 200 lifetime donations.

Aside from their individual donations, the Parkers make a great blood donating team.

As a female, Mrs. Parker has less iron in her blood than Mr. Parker and can't give whole blood as frequently as he can. However, males typically don't have as many platelets in their blood as females, so Mrs. Parker can donate platelets more often than Mr. Parker. To stay healthy on the road, the Parkers try to eat well and take walking breaks every two hours. Mrs. Parker also takes iron supplements.

Their next stop is at Ft. Hood, Texas during their Christmas break. After that, they'll travel to Camp Pendleton, Calif. during Easter break. They plan to finish their tour next summer.

To follow the Parkers on their journey or to find out more about ASBP, visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil



Rose Weatherly, 81st MDTs apheresis supervisor, checks Mrs. Parker's iron level and blood pressure while gathering other necessary information before donating.

Security takes to the streets

By Jonathan Hicks

Keesler Public Affairs

Safety and security are key factors in protecting personnel and property on a military installation.

In Keesler's four base housing where the safety of families and children are involved, the 81st Security Forces Squadron is providing up-close and personal security with the use of foot patrols to augment patrol cars and electric vehicles that keep an eye on the areas.

During these patrols, security forces officers look for unsecured items, potential intruders or other unusual activities.

Another benefit of foot patrols is they are crime deterrents. Although some law breakers are not easily discouraged, regardless of what security measures are in place, the foot patrol hopes to prevent some crimes before they happen.

"We've been doing foot patrols in housing since June 2008 and this effort will continue indefinitely," said Staff Sgt. Christopher Turknett, 81st SFS noncommissioned officer in charge of police services. "The goal is not just to provide a presence to deter crime, but to have a stronger role in the community through policing our neighborhoods."

Residents must do their part



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Staff Sgt. Christopher Pike, 81st Security Forces Squadron, drives through Bay Ridge family housing area in one of Keesler's three electric vehicles used along with foot and regular vehicle patrols to protect Keesler's housing areas.

and exercise certain precautions that may help to protect them from becoming the victims of robbery or other crimes.

Don't leave valuables in plain sight, such as in the front or back yards, porch or patio.

Secure property by making sure all doors are locked, including garages, outside storage areas and patios.

Lock car doors and don't

leave any valuables inside.

Use the buddy system when walking, running or spending time in residential areas at night.

Always keep security in mind and remain aware of your surroundings. Be proactive and don't assume that crime won't happen to you.

For more information, call 377-3040.



Bargain hunters flock to Airman's Attic, Keesler Thrift Shop



Photos by Kemberly Groue

Jennifer Hammack browses through the purses at the Keesler Thrift Shop after its ribbon-cutting ceremony, Sept. 8. Her husband is Lt. Col. Lonnie Hammack, 85th Engineering Installation Squadron commander. The shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses Club, is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. The shop shares a building at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street with Airman's Attic.



Airman's Attic volunteer John Crum bags a shredder for Staff Sgt. Ebony Cuthbert, 335th Training Squadron. His wife, Airman 1st Class Catherine Crum, is a student in the 335th TRS. Airman's Attic, which assists junior enlisted members with obtaining free household items, is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, non-training Fridays and the last Saturday of the month.



Colonel McBride

81st MDTs gets new commander

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Col. Richard McBride Jr. took command of the 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron Tuesday.

Colonel McBride succeeds Col. Stephanie McCann who retired Aug. 1.

Colonel McBride's squadron consists of diagnostic imaging, nutritional medicine, pharmacy and pathology and clinical laboratory flights and is comprised of more than 300 military members and civilians.

The colonel, who served in the Marine Corps as an enlisted member, entered the Air Force in 1987 after receiving a master of science in analytical chemistry degree from the University of Maryland. He completed his biomedical laboratory officer internship at Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

Colonel McBride served as chief of laboratory services at Dover AFB, Del., where he spearheaded the 436th Contingency Blood Donor Center's support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm. He also directed the largest transfusion service and blood center in the Air Force at Lackland AFB, Texas.

He was chief of the 3rd Medical Group's laboratory element, Elmendorf AFB Alaska, and served on the Air Staff as director of the Air Force Blood Program. He also served as a medical staff officer in the office of the command surgeon, U.S. Central Command, MacDill AFB, Fla.

Spouse career program deadline extended

By Elaine Wilson

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Officials have extended a spouse employment program enrollment deadline to allow more military spouses to take spring semester classes.

Effective today, spouses currently enrolled in the Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts program, commonly known as MyCAA, will be able to request financial assistance for classes with a start date that is on or before Jan. 31. Previously, the start-date cutoff was Jan. 15.

However, spouses still must submit their financial assistance request by Oct. 21.

The change was based on feedback from spouses and schools. Many schools offer a later start date for the spring semester, and extending the enrollment

deadline will give more spouses the opportunity to attend courses, said Robert L. Gordon III, the deputy undersecretary of defense for military community and family policy.

"We appreciate the feedback from military spouses currently participating in the MyCAA career advancement program," Mr. Gordon said.

Previously, MyCAA offered a lifetime benefit of \$6,000 to all spouses of servicemembers. Starting Oct. 25, however, financial assistance will be limited to spouses of active-duty servicemembers in pay grades E-1 to E-5 and O-1 to O-2. Spouses of guard and Reserve members within those ranks can participate as long as they can start and complete their courses while their sponsors are on Title 10 orders.

Eligible spouses will be able to receive a maximum financial benefit of \$4,000 for up to three years from the start date of the first class, with a \$2,000 annual cap. The money can be used to fund associate's degrees, licenses and certification programs, but not higher degrees. The annual cap can be waived if a license or certification's cost exceeds \$2,000.

Currently enrolled spouses who meet the new criteria will be able to continue with the program after Oct. 25, but under the new parameters.

Spouses who no longer will be eligible to receive financial assistance after Oct. 25 will still be able to access career and education counseling services.

For more information, log on to <http://militaryonesource.com> or call Military OneSource, 1-800-342-9647.

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For more news, information, photos and videos,
log on to www.keesler.af.mil

Local station airs stories of families separated by deployment

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

A local television station is anxious to tell the stories of Keesler families who are separated by deployment.

Project Homefront is a special feature of WLOX-TV, south Mississippi's ABC affiliate. News anchor Jeff Lawson interviews military families in the station's viewing area as a public service to raise awareness of the needs and challenges faced left behind when their loved one deploys.

Every month, a family is selected to receive a prize package that includes dinner for four and a spa day and makeover.

To tell their story, Keesler families should go to the Project Homefront page on www.wlox.com.

Identity theft is a personal nightmare and security risk. Shred bills, statements, letters, old journals, records, outdated application forms and any documents that contain your full name, Social Security number, duty title and job information, credit card, bank account numbers and names of family members. If you see documents being removed from trash cans, call the 81st Security Forces Squadron law enforcement desk, 377-3040.

Jewish High Holidays

Keesler's Jewish community continues its observance of the High Holidays at Congregation Beth Israel, 12277 Three Rivers Road, Gulfport:

Friday — 6:10 p.m., Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre.

Saturday — Yom Kippur; 9:30 a.m. Shacharit, 5:15 p.m. Minchah/Ne-ilah followed by break-the-fast (please bring a dairy dish to share).

For more information, call Master Sgt. Michael Raff, 207-2196; e-mail michael.raff@us.af.mil or call Congregation Beth Israel, 539-1655.

Learn to tie a fly

Friday and Saturday during Still Serving Weekend at the main exchange, representatives of Project Healing Waters, a national veterans program, are featured in the fishing supply department.

They will demonstrate how to tie flies and offer hands-on fly tying experience.

For more information, log on to www.projecthealingwaters.com

Book signing

Retired Maj. Gen. Jesse Allen of Biloxi signs copies of his book, From Jeep Driver to General, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 24-25 at the main exchange.

Be Well class

The health and wellness center offers a "Be Well Class," 8-10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, for Keesler military, retired, their families and federal civilian employees.

The three-part class focuses on exercise, nutrition and behavior modifications. It's recommended for people who aren't sure how to start an exercise program or make improvements in overall health, fitness and diet. It's taught by an exercise physiologist, the HAWC dietician and a mental health technician.

Specific modules are offered each month that members can attend, such as running, strength training and healthy weight.

For more information, call the HAWC, 376-3170.

Mental health offers healthy living classes

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

The 81st Medical Operations Squadron mental health flight is initiating a new series of mental health class encompassing all forms of healthy living from a therapeutic point of view.

Classes are 3 p.m. Wednesdays in the conference room in the Arnold Medical Annex on Meadows Drive behind the tennis courts.

Classes last 60-90 minutes. New topics as well as different relaxation techniques are covered weekly. In the first week of the month, physical stress and mental health are discussed. In the second week, the thinking portion of mental health is covered, with focus on changing to healthy thoughts. In the third week, the topic is goal-setting and altering behavior to improve quality of life. The fourth week focuses on communication, relationships and assertiveness.

Classes are open to military members and retirees, along with their family members, as well as federal civilian employees.

For more information, call Senior Airman Fabian Conbruck, 376-0385.

Pool still open

The main base pool on Meadows Drive remains open through Sept. 29:

Monday-Friday — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. lap swim only; 2-3 p.m. closed; 3-7 p.m. lap and recreation swimming.

Saturday and Sunday — noon to 6 p.m., lap and recreation swim.

For more information, call 377-3948 or 3160

Heart Walk

Base teams are being organized for the American Heart Association's Heart Walk on Oct. 2.

Festivities and registration begin at 7:30 a.m. at the former Gulfport Veterans Administration Medical Center site

on U.S. Hwy. 90. The walk starts at 8:30 a.m.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Isunté Barnes, 377-2936, (504) 274-9030 or e-mail isunte.barnes@us.af.mil.

Second career briefing

Marketing Yourself for a Second Career program is 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 20 in the Sablich Center Auditorium.

The program is presented by retired Navy Capt. Brian Blanchfield, Military Officers Association of America.

It's recommended for military members who plan to leave the service in the next one to three years. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

Topics include job competition, transition planning, resumes, salary negotiation,

networking and interviewing.

For more information, call Steve McDaniel Jr., 376-8506.

Pedestrian gate hours

The pedestrian gate next to Jeff Davis Elementary School is open for these events:

Sept. 30 — 5:30-7 p.m., family math night.

Oct. 1 — 5:30-7 p.m., fall festival.

Oct. 21 — 5:30-6:30 p.m., report card pickup, open house, Parent-Teacher Association meeting, Term II orientation.

Nov. 5 — 8:30 a.m., second cup of coffee, cafeteria.

Nov. 11 — 5:30-7 p.m., family science night.

Nov. 19 — 9-11 a.m., parents view reading fair projects.

Supply classes

Quarterly supply classes are held in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building .

Block I basic supply class is 9 a.m. Wednesday and Dec. 15.

All newly-assigned supply custodians and resource managers are required to attend.

For more information, contact Patrick Governale, 377-5998 or patrick.governale.ctr@us.af.mil, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Block IIA-Bench Stock is 9-9:30 a.m. Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Crystal Simpson, 377-9955.

Block IIB-Repair Cycle is 10-11 a.m. Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Nathaniel Parks, 377-2310.

Block III training is 1 p.m. Wednesday and Dec. 15. All newly-assigned supply equipment custodians are required to attend as well as all other custodians annually.

For more information, con-

tact Willie McDonald, 377-2660 or willie.mcdonald.1.ctr@us.af.mil or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil

Zero overpricing

Submit zero overpricing items on Air Force Form 1046 to CSC supply customerservice, Room 126, Taylor Logistics Center, Building 4002.

For overpricing issues or concerns, call Michael Cashion, 377-8891, or e-mail michael.cashion.2.ctr@us.af.mil.

Root canal treatment

The Keesler Dental Clinic is seeking patients who require root canal treatment.

All authorized beneficiaries, including military retirees and dependents of active duty and retired, are eligible for care.

Patients accepted for treatment are treated by either the endodontic specialty program residents or the residents in the general dentistry program.

Referral from a dentist for root canal treatment is needed.

For more information, call the endodontics department, 376-5227.

Thrift shop hours

The Keesler Thrift Shop, operated by the Keesler Spouses Club, is at the corner of Meadows Drive and First Street.

Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Donations are accepted during regular hours. Consignments are accepted 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays.

For more information, call 377-3217.

Visitor center hours

The Keesler Visitor Center is open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and closed on weekends.

Lost no more



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Signs are now affixed to light poles in the huge commissary/base exchange commissary parking lot to guide shoppers to their cars.

A 3 - 5 minute steady tone on the base siren
is a TORNADO WARNING — take cover.



Bautista



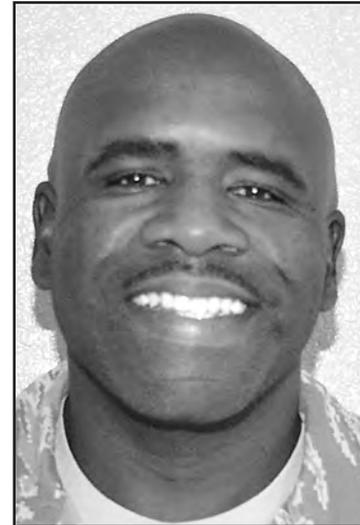
Krokovay



Hofmann



Spitler



Wheeler

9 Keesler runners headed to Air Force Marathon

By Airman 1st Class
Heather Holcomb

Keesler Public Affairs

Every year the thousands of people are drawn to Dayton, Ohio, like Monarch butterflies to the forests of Mexico. Their motivation for going and their backgrounds vary greatly, but they are all there for the same reason: to run.

Ever since the 50th anniversary of the Air Force in 1997, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base has hosted the Air Force Marathon.

This year's event includes 5-kilometer, 10-K, half marathon (13.1 miles), and full marathon (26.2 miles) races; a two-day sports and fitness expo; a race director's breakfast; a gourmet pasta dinner and several guest speakers.

At least nine Team Keesler members will be among the thousands of feet pounding the pavement toward the finish line:

Full marathon — Mark Bautista, endocrinology technician, and Zsuzsanna Krokovay, medical technician, 81st Medical Operations Squadron; Cody Spitler, 81st Force Support Squadron; Joseph Wheeler, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron first sergeant, and Walker Hofmann, 333rd Training Squadron undergraduate cyber training instructor.



Viniegra

Half marathon — Nelson Viniegra, 81st MDOS dermatology technician; Ann Owens, 333rd TRS training support flight chief, and Terry Owens, 336th TRS communications and information management flight chief.

10-K — Janet Draper, 338th TRS cyber transport flight chief.

The motivation for entering a marathon is usually more than for the pure physical benefits. Running in itself is an activity that reaches deeper than skin and muscle. Bautista said that he was motivated by fear.

"I believe that in everything we do, even though it can be hard to admit, there's always



Ann Owens

going to be that fear of failure, pain and struggling," Bautista said, "I refuse to be the one too scared to try something and end up not doing anything."

Bautista was a boxer until an accident put him on crutches. He quickly decided he wasn't going to let himself be restricted and began running. Now he runs between 20-40 miles per week with his friends.

"They're all faster than me, so I always push myself to try to keep up," he said.

It's been said that the only way to improve in any aspect of life is to ignore perceived limitations and keep moving forward, even if progress is slow.



Terry Owens

Krokovay also entered the Air Force marathon to push herself. She said she wanted to take her running further — she ran three half marathons last year and is running the full marathon this year.

Hofmann says he's an avid runner and has wanted to participate in the Air Force Marathon ever since he joined the Air Force in 2006.

"I'm not the fastest kid on the block, but I finish every race I start," Hofmann said. "For me personally, that's the most important thing."

Spitler said it's been a goal of his to run a marathon competitively and the Air Force Marathon is a step towards that goal. He has run in 5-Ks



Draper

and triathlons, but this is his first full marathon.

Wheeler is running the Air Force Marathon for those who can't. He decided to make his run a First Sergeants Council fundraiser for wounded, injured and ill service members and their families.

"I was going to go up and run it for fun at first," said Wheeler, who ran the Air Force Marathon for the first time last year. "Then I visited the Center for the Intrepid, a rehabilitation center at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio that helps wounded warriors adjust to everyday functions. What may seem

Please see **Marathon**, Page 23

Marathon,

from Page 1

routine for us isn't for a double amputee."

Viniegra said that his co-workers told him they had good experiences at past Air Force marathons. He's run half marathons in San Francisco, San Antonio and New Orleans and has participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March in New Mexico twice.

Ann and Terry Owens have made the Air Force Marathon a yearly tradition. They started going in 2007 as part of a relay team and have been attending ever since.

"This will be the one I go to every year, not

only for the enjoyment but for the camaraderie," Anne Owens said.

"It's a great event and gets better every year," her husband added.

Draper said her inspiration came when she heard Gen. Gary North, Pacific Air Forces commander, speak at her Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy graduation.

When General North said, "Be outstanding or be outprocessing," his message resonated with her. She returned with the goal of improving her fitness so she could perform at the level expected of a senior NCO.

"Registering for the marathon forced me to continue on this path by running, cross-training and eating clean." said Draper.

Play continues in 3 intramural leagues

Golf

The 81st Force Support Squadron and Keesler's Marine Corps Detachment were scheduled to meet Tuesday in the winners' bracket of the third round of the base's intramural golf championship tournament.

Results were unavailable at press time.

Meeting in the losers' bracket were the 334th Training Squadron's A-team vs. the 334th TRS B-team and the 81st Medical Operations Squadron and the 81st Training Support Squadron.

The 338th Training Squadron and the 81st Dental Squadron were eliminated in last week's second round.

Soccer

Single-elimination play-offs begin Wednesday for Keesler's intramural soccer league.

A meeting for coaches is 2 p.m. Tuesday at Vandenberg Community Center.

As of Friday, the 334th Training Squadron remained atop the standings with an 8-1 record.

Standings for the other 10 teams in the league are 338th TRS-A, 6-2; 81st Medical Support Squadron, 6-3; 332nd TRS, 5-1; 81st LRS, 4-2; 335th TRS, 4-3; 338th TRS-B, 4-5; 336th TRS-A, 2-5; 336th TRS-B and Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit, both 2-7; and the 338th TRS-C, 1-8.

Flag football

As of Sept. 9, two teams in each of the intramural football leagues still maintained unbeaten records.

In the American Conference, the 338th Training Squadron's A-team is 4-0, following a 38-0 drubbing of the 81st Medical Support Squadron's B-team Sept. 8. The 81st Security Forces Squadron is 2-0 following a 45-18 victory over Keesler's Marine Corps Detachment the same evening.

The 81st MDSS-B, MARDET and the 335th TRS are 2-2, the 334th TRS is 1-1, the 336th TRS-A is 0-2 and the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit is 0-4.

In the National Conference, the 81st Medical Group and the 81st MDSS A-team posted big victories Sept. 9 to hold on to their 4-0 records. The 81st MDG blanked the 336th TRS-B, 55-0, and the 81st MDSS-A shut out the 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 43-0.

The 332nd TRS and 81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron are both 2-1. The 403rd Wing is 2-3, the 81st LRS is 1-3, the 338th TRS-B is 0-2 and the 336th TRS-B is 0-5.



Ironwoman

Yekaterina Karpitskaya, 81st Surgical Operations Squadron orthopedic surgeon, completed her first full Ironman competition Saturday in Madison, Wis. Karpitskaya finished the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and 26.2-mile run in 14 hours, 55 minutes and 25 seconds.